IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v. : CRIMINAL NO. ____

PHILIP ELVIN RIEHL

GUILTY PLEA AGREEMENT

Under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the government, the defendant, and the defendant's counsel enter into the following guilty plea agreement. Any reference to the United States or the government in this agreement shall mean the Office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

- 1. The defendant agrees to plead guilty to Counts One, Two, and Three of an information, waiving prosecution by indictment, charging him with conspiracy to commit securities fraud and wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, securities fraud, in violation of 15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78ff and 17 C.F.R. § 240,10b-5 and 18 U.S.C. § 2, and wire fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, and not to contest forfeiture as set forth in the notice of forfeiture charging criminal forfeiture under 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C), all arising from the defendant's participation in a scheme to defraud investors in an investment program and through a securities offering for Trickling Springs Creamery, LLC, through materially false and misleading representations about those investments. The defendant further acknowledges his waiver of rights, as set forth in the attachment to this agreement.
 - 2. At the time of sentencing, the government will:

- a. Make whatever sentencing recommendation as to imprisonment, fines, forfeiture, restitution, and other matters which the government deems appropriate.
- b. Comment on the evidence and circumstances of the case; bring to the Court's attention all facts relevant to sentencing including evidence relating to dismissed counts, if any, and to the character and any criminal conduct of the defendant; address the Court regarding the nature and seriousness of the offense; respond factually to questions raised by the Court; correct factual inaccuracies in the presentence report or sentencing record; and rebut any statement of facts made by or on behalf of the defendant at sentencing.
- Nothing in this agreement shall limit the government in its comments in,
 and responses to, any post-sentencing matters.
- 3. The defendant understands, agrees, and has had explained to him by counsel that the Court may impose the following statutory maximum sentences: Count One (conspiracy), 5 years' imprisonment, a 3 year period of supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment; Count Two (securities fraud), 20 years' imprisonment, a 3 year period of supervised release, a \$5,000,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment; and Count Three (wire fraud), 20 years' imprisonment, a 3 year period of supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment.

Total Maximum Sentence is: 45 years' imprisonment, a 3 year period of supervised release, a \$5,500,000 fine, and a \$300 special assessment. Full restitution of as much as \$59,688,297.97 also shall be ordered. Forfeiture of all proceeds traceable to the commission of such offenses also may be ordered.

4. The defendant further understands that supervised release may be revoked if its terms and conditions are violated. When supervised release is revoked, the original term of

imprisonment may be increased by up to 2 years on Counts One, Two, and Three. Thus, a violation of supervised release increases the possible period of incarceration and makes it possible that the defendant will have to serve the original sentence, plus a substantial additional period, without credit for time already spent on supervised release.

- 5. In order to facilitate the collection of the criminal monetary penalties to be imposed in connection with this prosecution, the defendant agrees fully to disclose all income, assets, liabilities, and financial interests, held directly or indirectly, whether held in his own name or in the name of a relative, spouse, associate, another person, or entity, and whether held in this country or outside this country. Accordingly:
- a. The defendant will submit a completed Financial Statement of Debtor to the U.S. Attorney's Office, in a form it provides and as it directs, within 14 days of execution of this plea agreement. The defendant promises that his financial statement and disclosures will be complete, accurate, and truthful.
- b. The defendant expressly authorizes the U.S. Attorney's Office to obtain a credit report on him in order to evaluate the defendant's ability to satisfy any monetary penalty imposed by the Court.
- Upon request by the United States, the defendant also agrees to submit to a financial deposition or interview prior to sentencing, and provide all documents within the defendant's possession or control as requested by the U.S. Attorney's Office regarding the defendant's financial resources and that of the defendant's household.
- d. The defendant agrees not to transfer, assign, dispose, remove, conceal, pledge as collateral, waste, or destroy property with the effect of hindering, delaying, or

defrauding the United States or victims. The defendant otherwise shall not devalue any property worth more than \$1,000 before sentencing, without the prior approval of the United States.

- e. The defendant also agrees to execute any documents necessary to release any funds held in any repository, bank, investment, other financial institution, or any other location in order to make partial or total payment toward any monetary penalty that the Court may impose.
- f. If the defendant fails to comply with this paragraph of the plea agreement or if any of the defendant's representations pursuant to the requirements set forth in this paragraph are false or inaccurate, the government may elect to: void this agreement; and/or argue that the defendant is not entitled to a downward adjustment for acceptance of responsibility under Guideline Section 3E1.1. The government may also elect to: void the forfeiture portion of the agreement and try the forfeiture before the Court and seek a larger forfeiture; and/or pursue any and all forfeiture remedies available at law or equity. The defendant agrees to waive any right to a trial by jury on all forfeiture issues, and to waive any claim at trial based on any statute of limitations.
- 6. The defendant agrees to pay restitution of \$59,688,297.97. The defendant agrees that any restitution or fine imposed by the Court shall be due and payable immediately and on such terms and conditions that the Court may impose. In the event the Court imposes a schedule for the payment of restitution or fine, the defendant understands and agrees that such a schedule represents a minimum payment obligation and does not preclude the United States Attorney's Office from pursuing any other means by which to satisfy the defendant's full and immediately enforceable financial obligation under applicable federal and/or state law.

- 7. The defendant agrees that forfeiture, restitution, fine, assessment, tax, interest, or other payments in this case do not constitute extraordinary acceptance of responsibility or provide any basis to seek a downward departure or variance from the applicable Sentencing Guideline range.
- 8. The defendant agrees to pay the special victims/witness assessment in the amount of \$300 before the time of sentencing and shall provide a receipt from the Clerk to the government before sentencing as proof of this payment.
 - 9. The parties agree to the following with respect to the ferfeiture of assets:
- a. The defendant agrees to forfeit his right, title, and interest in the sum of \$59,688,297.97, which represents the proceeds that he obtained from the offenses of conspiracy, securities fraud, and wire fraud charged in Counts One, Two, and Three of the Information in this case, as explained in the Notice of Forfeiture in the Information, and agrees to the entry of a money judgment against him in this amount. The defendant agrees that, due to the defendant's acts or omissions, these proceeds are not currently available to the government for forfeiture, and that the government is entitled to the forfeiture of substitute assets because one or more of the conditions in 21 U.S.C. § 853(p) have been met.
- b. The defendant agrees that, pursuant to the Notice of Forfeiture in the Information in this case, based on the defendant's conviction for his offenses of conspiracy, securities fraud, and wire fraud, as charged in Counts One, Two, and Three of the Information, he forfeits his right, title, and interest in the assets identified in the attached "Schedule A" and agrees that such assets are proceeds that he obtained from the offenses of conspiracy, securities fraud, and wire fraud charged in Counts One, Two, and Three of the Information.

- The defendant agrees to the entry of a preliminary order of forfeiture pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.2(b) as soon as possible after the guilty plea and before sentencing. Pursuant to Rule 32.2(b)(4), the defendant further agrees that, upon the request of the government, the preliminary order of forfeiture may be made final before his sentencing. The defendant waives all statutory deadlines, including but not limited to deadlines set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 983.
- d. The defendant agrees that he will cooperate with the government by taking whatever steps are necessary to pass clear title to the United States of the assets listed in this paragraph, including, but not limited to, assisting in bringing any assets, or the proceeds from the sale of assets, located outside the United States within the jurisdiction of the United States, completing any legal documents required for the transfer of assets to the United States, and taking whatever steps are necessary to ensure that assets subject to forfeiture are not sold, disbursed, wasted, hidden, or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture.
- e. The defendant consents to the interlocutory sale of any or all of the assets upon motion of the government, following the entry of a preliminary order of forfeiture.
- f. In the event that any claim is made by third parties to any of the assets listed in this paragraph, the defendant agrees to forfeit substitute assets equal in value to those assets claimed by third parties.
- g. The defendant agrees to surrender to the government possession of any property to be forfeited by two weeks before the sentencing date.
- h. The defendant agrees, with respect to any real property to be forfeited, that the government may file a lis pendens on the real property; the government shall have access to the real property for the purposes of inspection, appraisal, and testing; and the defendant will

take all actions and execute all documents requested by the government to effectuate the government's access to the real property.

- 10. The defendant agrees to waive any claims, defenses, or challenges arising under the Double Jeopardy or Excessive Fines Clauses of the Eighth Amendment, resulting from any forfeiture imposed in this case and/or any pending or completed administrative or civil forfeiture actions, and stipulates that such forfeiture is not grossly disproportionate to his criminal conduct.
- District of Pennsylvania and cannot bind other federal, state, or local authorities. However, the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania will bring this agreement to the attention of other prosecuting offices, if requested. This agreement was reached without regard to any civil or administrative matters that may be pending or commenced in the future against the defendant. This agreement does not prohibit the United States, any agency thereof (including the Internal Revenue Service and the Securities and Exchange Commission), or any third party from initiating or prosecuting any civil or administrative proceeding against the defendant.
- 12. The defendant may not withdraw his plea because the Court declines to follow any recommendation, motion, or stipulation by the parties to this agreement. No one has promised or guaranteed to the defendant what sentence the Court will impose.
- 13. Pursuant to USSG § 6B1.4, the parties enter into the following stipulations under the Sentencing Guidelines Manual. It is understood and agreed that: (1) the parties are free to argue (except as stated below) the applicability of any other provision of the Sentencing. Guidelines, including offense conduct, offense characteristics, criminal history, adjustments, and departures; (2) these stipulations are not binding upon either the Probation Office or the Court;

and (3) the Court may make factual and legal determinations that differ from these stipulations and that may result in an increase or decrease in the Sentencing Guidelines range and the sentence that may be imposed:

- a. The parties agree and stipulate that: \$59,688,297.97 was the fraud loss caused in furtherance of the criminal activity jointly undertaken by the defendant and co-conspirators; this amount was within the scope of the defendant's agreement; this amount was reasonably foreseeable to the defendant in connection with the conspiracy; and the defendant's Guideline range should be calculated based on this amount pursuant to USSG § 1B1.3.
- b. The parties agree and stipulate that, pursuant to USSG § 2B1.1(b)(2)(A)(i), the defendant's offense level increases 2 levels because the offenses involved 10 or more victims.
- c. The parties agree and stipulate that, pursuant to USSG § 2B1.1(b)(10), the defendant's offense level increases 2 levels because the offenses involved sophisticated means.
- d. The parties agree and stipulate that, pursuant to USSG § 3A1.1(b)(1), the defendant's offense level increases 2 levels because he knew or should have known that a victim of the offense was a vulnetable victim.
- e. The parties agree and stipulate that, pursuant to USSG § 3B1.3, the defendant's offense level increases 2 levels because he abused a position of public or private trust.
- f. The parties agree and stipulate that, as of the date of this agreement, the defendant has demonstrated acceptance of responsibility for his offense, making the defendant eligible for a 2-level-downward adjustment under USSG § 3E1.1(a).

- g. The parties agree and stipulate that, as of the date of this agreement, the defendant has assisted authorities in the investigation or prosecution of his own misconduct by timely notifying the government of his intent to plead guilty, thereby permitting the government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the government and the court to allocate their resources efficiently, resulting in a 1-level downward adjustment under USSG § 3E1.1(b).
- If the defendant commits any federal, state, or local crime between the date of this 14. agreement and his sentencing, or otherwise violates any other provision of this agreement, the government may declare a breach of the agreement, and may at its option: (a) prosecute the defendant for any federal crime including, but not limited to, perjury, obstruction of justice, and the substantive offenses arising from this investigation, based on and using any information provided by the defendant during the investigation and prosecution of the criminal case; (b) upon government motion, reinstate and try the defendant on any counts which were to be, or which had been, dismissed on the basis of this agreement; (c) be relieved of any obligations under this agreement regarding recommendations as to sentence; and (d) be relieved of any stipulations under the Sentencing Guidelines. Moreover, the defendant's previously entered guilty plea will stand and cannot be withdrawn by him. The decision shall be in the sole discretion of the government both whether to declare a breach, and regarding the remedy or remedies to seek. The defendant understands and agrees that the fact that the government has not asserted a breach of this agreement or enforced a remedy under this agreement will not bar the government from raising that breach or enforcing a remedy at a later time.
- 15. In exchange for the promises made by the government in entering this plea agreement, the defendant voluntarily and expressly waives all rights to appeal or collaterally attack the defendant's conviction, sentence, or any other matter relating to this prosecution.

whether such a right to appeal or collateral attack arises under 18 U.S.C. § 3742, 28 U.S.C. § 1291, 28 U.S.C. § 2255, or any other provision of law. As part of this knowing and voluntary waiver of the right to appeal or collaterally attack the conviction and sentence, the defendant expressly waives the right to raise on appeal or on collateral review any argument that (1) the statutes to which the defendant is pleading guilty are unconstitutional and (2) the admitted conduct does not fall within the scope of the statutes.

- a. Notwithstanding the waiver provision above, if the government appeals from the sentence, then the defendant may file a direct appeal of his sentence.
- b. If the government does not appeal, then notwithstanding the waiver provision set forth in this paragraph, the defendant may file a direct appeal or petition for collateral relief but may raise only a claim, if otherwise permitted by law in such a proceeding:
- i. that the defendant's sentence on any count of conviction exceeds the statutory maximum for that count as set forth in paragraph 3-above;
- ii. challenging a decision by the sentencing judge to impose an "upward departure" pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines;
- iii. challenging a decision by the sentencing judge to impose an "upward variance" above the final Sentencing Guideline range determined by the Court; and
- iv. that an attorney who represented the defendant during the course of this criminal case provided constitutionally ineffective assistance of counsel.

If the defendant does appeal or seek collateral relief pursuant to this subparagraph, no issue may be presented by the defendant in such a proceeding other than those described in this subparagraph.

- 16. The defendant acknowledges that pursuing an appeal or any collateral attack waived in the preceding paragraph may constitute a breach of this plea agreement. The government recognizes that the mere filing of a notice of appeal is not a breach of the plea agreement. The government may declare a breach only after the defendant or his counsel thereafter states, either orally or in writing, a determination to proceed with an appeal or collateral attack raising an issue the government deems barred by the waiver. The parties acknowledge that the pursuit of an appeal constitutes a breach only if a court determines that the appeal does not present an issue that a judge may reasonably conclude is permitted by an exception to the waiver stated in the preceding paragraph or constitutes a "miscarriage of justice" as that term is defined in applicable law.
- 17. The defendant waives any claim under the Hyde Amendment, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A. (Statutory Note), for attorney's fees and other litigation expenses arising out of the investigation or prosecution of this matter.
- 18. The defendant waives all rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request or receive from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of this case, including without limitation any records that may be sought under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, or the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a.
- 19. The defendant is satisfied with the legal representation provided by the defendant's lawyer; the defendant and this lawyer have fully discussed this plea agreement; and the defendant is agreeing to plead guilty because the defendant admits that he is guilty.
- 20. It is agreed that the parties' guilty plea agreement contains no additional promises, agreements, or understandings other than those set forth in this written guilty plea

agreement, and that no additional promises, agreements, or understandings will be entered into unless in writing and signed by all parties. In addition, the prior off-the-record proffer letter dated October 15, 2019, is revoked as of the date this plea is entered.

> WILLIAM M. McSWAIN United States Attorney

Chief, Criminal Division

Defendant

Counsel for the Defendant

Deputy Chief, Economic Crimes Assistant United States Attorney

Assistant United States Attorney

Attachment

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	*
v.	:	CRIMINAL NO.
PHILIP ELVIN RIEHL	*	

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RIGHTS

I hereby acknowledge that I have certain rights that I will be giving up by pleading guilty.

- 1. I understand that I do not have to plead guilty.
- 2. I may plead not guilty and insist upon a trial.
- 3. At that trial, I understand
- a. that I would have the right to be tried by a jury that would be selected from the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and that along with my attorney. I would have the right to participate in the selection of that jury;
- b. that the jury could only convict me if all 12 jurors agreed that they were convinced of my guilt beyond a reasonable doubt;
- that the government would have the burden of proving my guilt beyond a reasonable doubt and that I would not have to prove anything;
- d. that I would be presumed innocent unless and until such time as the jury was convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the government had proven that I was guilty;
- e. that I would have the right to be represented by a lawyer at this trial and at any appeal following the trial, and that if I could not afford to hire a lawyer, the court would appoint one for me free of charge;
- f. that through my lawyer I would have the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against me;

- g. that I could testify in my own defense if I wanted to and I could subpoena witnesses to testify in my defense if I wanted to; and
- h. that I would not have to testify or otherwise present any defense if I did not want to and that if I did not present any evidence, the jury could not hold that against me.
- 4. I understand that if I plead guilty, there will be no trial and I would be giving up all of the rights listed above.
- 5. I understand that if I decide to enter a plea of guilty, the judge will ask me questions under oath and that if I lie in answering those questions, I could be prosecuted for the crime of perjury, that is, for lying under oath.
- 6. I understand that if I plead guilty, I have given up my right to appeal, except as set forth in the appellate waiver provisions of my plea agreement.
- 7. Understanding that I have all these rights and that by pleading guilty I am giving them up, I still wish to plead guilty.
- 8. I acknowledge that no one has promised me what sentence the Court will impose. I am aware and have discussed with my attorney that, at sentencing, the Court will calculate the Sentencing Guidelines range (including whether any departures apply), and then, in determining my sentence, will consider the Guideline range and all relevant policy statements in the Sentencing Guidelines, along with other sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), including
 - (1) the nature and circumstances of the offense and my personal history and characteristics;
 - (2) the need for the sentence imposed—(A) to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offense; (B) to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; (C) to protect the public from further crimes of the defendant; and (D) to provide the defendant with needed educational or vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment in the most effective manner;
 - (3) the kinds of sentences available;
 - (4) the need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparities among defendants with similar records who have been found guilty of similar conduct; and

(5) the need to provide restitution to any victims of the offense.

PHILIP LVIN RIEHL

Defendant

CHRISTOPHER A. SARNO, ESQ.

Counsel for the Defendant

Dated: //23/2020

SCHEDULE A

- 1. 1981 Camp Swatara Road, Myerstown, PA
- 2. 631 Chestnut Street, Lebanon, PA
- 3. 433 Canal Street, Lebanon PA
- 4. 1618 Cotton Street, Reading, PA
- 5. The Villas, Pine Crest Village Drive, Pine Grove, PA
- 6. All real properties in which Philip Elvin Right and/or any of his business entities have an ownership interest
- 7. All real-properties for which Philip Elvin Riehl and/or any of his business entities have received any rental payments
- 8. Philip Elvin Riehl's investment in Hometown Structures
- 9. Philip Elvin Richl's investment in Old Forge Iron Works
- 10. Philip Elvin Riehl's ownership interest and/or investments in Coreland Partnership
- 11. Philip Elvin Riehl's ownership interest and/or investments in any and all business entities
- 12. All loans receivable payable to Philip Elvin Riehl, Riehl Accounting, Riehl Investment Program, and/or any and all business entities in which Philip Elvin Riehl has an ownership interest
- 13. All security on loans receivable payable to Philip Elvin Riehl, Riehl Accounting, Riehl Investment Program, and/or any and all business entities in which Philip Elvin Riehl has an ownership interest